

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY ARA/BC:JEKARKASHIAN
10/11/73 EXT. 23023
APPROVED BY ARA/BC:JEKARKASHIAN
ARA:JBKUBISCH (DRAFT)
S/S-O:R. WRIGHT

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (OMISSION LINE 3 PARA 3)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CI, PINT, PINS, MILI, PFOR
SUBJECT: BILATERAL MEETING: FOREIGN MINISTER HUERTA WITH
ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH

1. FOREIGN MINISTER HUERTA ACCCOMPANIED BY HIS POLITICAL
ADVISER, AMB. ENRIQUE BERNSTEIN, CALLED ON ASSISTANT
SECRETARY KUBISCH AT 10:00 A.M. OCTOBER 11. SUBSEQUENT-
LY HUERTA AND KUBISCH JOINED OTHER MEMBERS OF CHILEAN
DELEGATION AND U.S. OFFICIALS REPRESENTING VARIOUS AGENCIES
IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WHICH ARE BEING REPORTED SEPTELS.

2. HUERTA BEGAN BY EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH THE
OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE FRANK DISCUSSIONS ON THE SITUATION IN
CHILE. HE SAID THAT THE EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 11 REPRE-
SENTED A PAINFUL AND DIFFICULT DECISION FOR THE ARMED
FORCES WHICH HAD BEEN TAKEN WITH GREAT RELUCTANCE. HE

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NOTED THAT THREE YEARS AGO THE ARMED FORCES DECIDED IN
GOOD FAITH TO COLLABORATE LOYALLY WITH THE POPULAR UNITY
GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, THEY DISCOVERED IN THE ENSUING MONTHS

THAT ALLENDE WAS DETERMINED TO UNDERMINE THE ARMED FORCES AND THE LEGISLATIVE AND JUDICIAL BRANCHES OF THE GOVERNMENT. CHILE, HE SAID, WAS ON THE VERGE OF A CIVIL WAR. THE ARMED FORCES HAD NO ALTERNATIVE AND DID WHAT THEY HAD TO DO.

3. WHILE THE MILITARY WAS PREPARED, HUERTA SAID, TO TAKE ACTION, THEY ARE NOT PREPARED TO GOVERN; THIS MORE DIFFICULT TASK WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH THE HELP OF CHILE'S WORKERS, TECHNICIANS, AND PROFESSIONALS. HE SAID THE JUNTA'S GOALS WERE TO REESTABLISH ORDER AND LABOR DISCIPLINE AND TO DEPOLITICIZE THE COUNTRY IN ORDER TO RETURN TO NORMALCY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE SAID THE JUNTA WANTED TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE RULES OF THE GAME WOULD NOT BE CHANGED FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO WORK AND INVEST IN CHILE.

4. HUERTA STATED THAT HE WANTED TO CLARIFY ANY ISSUE OR QUESTIONS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MIGHT HAVE WITH RESPECT TO THE SITUATION IN HIS COUNTRY. HE ASKED IF IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO REFER PUBLICLY TO HIS MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT, SINCE HE PLANNED TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE BEFORE LEAVING WASHINGTON. HE SUGGESTED THAT A PREVIOUSLY AGREED STATEMENT MIGHT BE USED IN RESPONDING TO PRESS INQUIRIES ON THE NATURE OF THESE CONVERSATIONS.

5. KUBISCH SAID THAT HE WAS VERY HAPPY TO WELCOME THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND HIS DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON AND APPRECIATED HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO HIM. HE ADDED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER WAS ALSO LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING THE FOREIGN MINISTER IN THE AFTERNOON. KUBISCH SAID THAT WE HAD WATCHED WITH GREAT INTEREST AND SYMPATHY THE ORDEAL WHICH CHILEANS HAD EXPERIENCED IN RECENT MONTHS. HE NOTED THAT THERE WAS GREAT AFFECTION IN THE U.S. FOR CHILE AND THAT WE UNDERSTOOD HOW DIFFICULT AND PAINFUL IT MUST HAVE BEEN FOR THE CHILEAN ARMED FORCES TO TAKE THIS STEP.

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6. KUBISCH STATED THAT THE U.S. HAD NOT AND WOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO PASS JUDGMENT ON INTERNAL CHILEAN MATTERS, BUT NOW THAT THE CHILEANS HAD THEMSELVES ACTED WE RECOGNIZED THERE WERE MANY DIFFICULT AND COMPLEX PROBLEMS FACING THE NEW GOVERNMENT. HE EXPRESSED THE U.S. DESIRE TO HELP IN ALL APPROPRIATE WAYS. AT THE SAME TIME, HE ADDED, THERE ARE LIMITATIONS ON WHAT WE CAN DO.

7. KUBISCH NOTED THAT THERE WERE MANY REPORTS COMING OUT OF CHILE AND A GREAT DEAL OF CRITICISM OF THE JUNTA'S ACTIONS IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS. HE NOTED THE

RECEIPT OF NUMEROUS LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM PRIVATE CITIZENS AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, ASKING THAT NO HELP BE GIVEN TO A MILITARY REGIME WHICH HAS OVERTHROWN A CONSTITUTIONALLY ELECTED GOVERNMENT. IN VARIOUS MEETINGS WITH CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES, KUBISCH SAID, THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH HAD BEEN CAUTIONED NOT TO HELP THE JUNTA UNTIL THE RIGHTS OF ALL PERSONS IN CHILE, FOREIGNERS AS WELL AS CHILEANS, WERE RESPECTED AND PROTECTED.

8. HUERTA SAID HE UNDERSTOOD BUT WISHED TO POINT OUT THAT THE CONSTITUTIONALLY ELECTED ALLENDE GOVERNMENT HAD TRANSFORMED ITSELF INTO AN ILLEGAL GOVERNMENT, A FACT ATTESTED TO BY PUBLIC DECLARATIONS MADE BY THE CHILEAN CONGRESS AND JUDICIARY. HE SAID HE WANTED TO EXPLAIN THIS REALITY TO THE U.S. CONGRESS AND ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY OBJECTIONS TO DOING SO. HUERTA SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD ASSURED BOTH THE UN AND THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS OF ITS GOOD INTENTIONS IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD. HE NOTED THAT SPECIAL AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN PLACED AT THE DISPOSAL OF THESE INTERNATIONAL BODIES SO THAT THEY COULD TRAVEL FREELY WITHIN CHILE AND ASCERTAIN THE FACTS FOR THEMSELVES. HUERTA SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S CONSCIENCE WAS CLEAR AND WHILE THIS WAS A PURELY INTERNAL CHILEAN MATTER, IT WAS WILLING TO DEMONSTRATE ITS GOOD INTENTIONS. KUBISCH SAID HE SAW NO OBJECTIONS TO CONTACTS WITH MEMBERS OF THE U.S. CONGRESS, ADDING THAT INFORMAL AND FRANK DISCUSSIONS OF CONDITIONS IN CHILE COULD HELP ACHIEVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE ACTUAL SITUATION.

9. KUBISCH SAID HE HAD RAISED THE QUESTION OF COOPERATION

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EARLIER BECAUSE HE WANTED TO BE AS FRANK AS POSSIBLE, AND THAT WHILE BOTH SIDES SHOULD WORK TOGETHER CLOSELY, IT WAS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THE REALITIES IN THE U.S. AT THE MOMENT, HE SAID, THE PROPOSED KENNEDY AMENDMENT ONLY EXPRESSES THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT THE U.S. SHOULD NOT ASSIST

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